

IN THIS ISSUE

- 2** "Under Construction" meetings
Family Nights at the Library
- 3** Reader's Choice Awards
Digital projects handbook
U.S. population center in Missouri
- 4** Second life for children's books
Reading habits of adolescents
- 5** Gates Library Initiative implementation
- 6** Missouri Library News
- 8** Students record books for Wolfner Library
- 10** Basic equipment grant awards
- 11** Automation grant awards
Laura Bush heads national reading campaign
- 12** Grantwriting no-no's

State Library plans 2001 summer institute

Every August, more than 100 Missouri library staff attend the Library Skills Institute to learn the basics of librarianship or to update their skills in specific areas. Intended for those who do not have graduate library degrees, the institute provides basic and advanced courses for staff in public and institutional libraries. Participants receive 17 hours of training in courses taught by academics as well as practicing librarians.

The 2001 institute will be held August 7-12 (Tuesday noon to Friday noon) in Columbia at the Ramada Inn. A description of courses and a registration packet will be sent to libraries in mid-May. The institute is a popular State Library offering and class size is limited, so early registration is advised.

Basic Library Skills

Required for first-time attendees, this course provides an overview of libraries and library services with an emphasis on public libraries. It is also a prerequisite for all advanced institute courses. Topics include the purpose of libraries and their relationship to the community, library operations, collection development, outreach to various populations, technology in libraries, and service to children, young adults, and adults. An afternoon lab at MOREnet will focus on the Internet and its use in libraries.

Advanced Library Skills

Participants can enroll in one of four advanced courses, all designed to provide the most current information presented by experts in the field. Advanced courses are:

Collection Development—This course introduces theory, practice, methods, policy development, and tools for collection management, including coping with small staffs, diminishing budgets, cramped space, and staff with varied expertise.

Instructor: Patricia Stinson-Switzer, librarian and adjunct faculty member at the University of North Texas

Organizing Library Material—The elements of cataloging, organizational procedures, and standards to facilitate access to library materials will be the topics covered in this course.

Instructor: Erlene Dudley, director of Dulany Library/Information Systems, William Woods University, Fulton

Services to Young Adults

Focusing on youth, ages 12 to 18, this course will cover the developmental needs of young adults and the creation of programs, services, and collections to support those needs.

Instructor: Patrick Jones, nationally known private consultant and advocate for young adult library services. He is the author of *Connecting Young Adults* (Neal-Schuman, 1992).

User Friendly Libraries

A range of assets, both tangible and intangible, help to make a library user friendly. From signage and placement of furniture to approachable staff at all levels to services for various user communities, the user-friendly library is a welcoming place dedicated to superior customer service. Do you know how your library measures up?

Topics to be discussed in this course are telephone etiquette, dealing with difficult people, staff attitudes, appropriate interior design, community surveys and focus groups, presentation skills, outreach to local groups and agencies, ADA and related disability issues, and services for speakers of other languages.

Instructors: Lorraine Sandstrom, Springfield-Greene County Library; Kathy Leitle,

(continued on page 2)

newsline (ISSN 1088-680X) is published monthly by the Library Development Division of the Missouri State Library, PO Box 387, Jefferson City, MO 65102; telephone 800-325-0131 in Missouri or 573-751-2680; fax 573-751-3612.

Contents of **newsline** may be reprinted with reference given to the publication and its date of issue.

The Missouri State Library is a division of the Secretary of State's Office.

Matt Blunt
Secretary of State

Sara Parker
State Librarian

Madeline Matson
Editor

Rob Davis
Director of Publications

Michael Douglas-Llyr
Graphic Designer



Check out **newsline online** (ISSN 1088-7237) at <http://www.sos.mo.gov/library/newsline/newsline.asp>

2001 summer institute

(continued from page 1)

St. Louis Public Library; Deborah Snellen, University of Missouri-Columbia; Kent Johnson, Disability Management Consulting Group, Columbia; Magaly Vallazza, Kansas City Public Library; and Karl Brockfeld, Marshall Public Library.

Bonus Workshops

On Wednesday evening, August 8, two "bonus" sessions will be offered for all participants. Deborah Ward, director of the health sciences library at the University of Missouri School of Medicine, will conduct a workshop on "Health Information for Everyone," and Sarah Howard of Daniel Boone Regional Library will present a storytelling workshop.

Short Courses

Advanced course participants will attend a short course held on Thursday afternoon, August 9. The courses include: Filtering Issues in Libraries; Provide Service and Market Your Library with Online Census Information; Readers' Advisory—For Every Reader a Book; Serving Home Schoolers; and Small Libraries Seminar.

Additional information about the institute will be posted on the State Library's website at <http://www.sos.mo.gov/library>. Questions should be directed to the Library Development Division at 800-325-0131 (Patrice Vale, ext. 13, or Karen Jones, ext. 11).

"Under Construction" meetings scheduled for spring

This spring, the State Library is sponsoring a series of meetings with Missouri librarians to elicit their opinions and suggestions about funding priorities and future directions for library service in the state. Dubbed "Under Construction," the meetings will range from small group sessions and meetings with library groups to larger meetings

in several regions. They build on "Missouri Libraries—It's Time," a white paper from the Missouri Public Library Directors group, and consideration of the progress made since the issue of *Charting Missouri's Library Future*, the state's long-range plan for libraries.

State Librarian Sara Parker and Barbara Reading, director of Library Development, have met with public library groups throughout the state. Additional meetings will be held in conjunction with MOBIUS and the Missouri Association of School Librarians, and other library groups. They will continue through May.

Three questions form the basis for each meeting:

1. What do you think are the top three actions which should be taken in the next three to five years to improve library service?
2. What would be your first priority for using more ongoing funding from the state?
3. Are there one-time investments which could push Missouri library service forward?

Results from the meetings will be published in upcoming issues of *newsline*. Send your responses to the questions to the State Librarian at 573-751-2751 or parkes@sosmail.state.mo.us.

Family Nights at the Library continues with successful season

The Family Nights at the Library program uses state funding to bring families to their local public libraries for three evenings of



education, fun, and free books. Many Missouri libraries have enjoyed this program since 1997, and in July 2000, the program was reopened and all libraries, including those which participated before that date, once again became eligible for a round of Family Nights.

Each participating library hosts three ses-

sions for families. The sessions focus on literacy, parenting, or education topics. The evening begins with a story for both parents and children; then parents listen to a guest speaker on the selected topic, while the children participate in activities related to the same topic. Each child gets a book to take home.

In the first season of this re-opened program, eight library systems have enjoyed Family Nights: Barton County Library, Carrollton Public Library, Hickory County Library, Oregon County Library, River Bluffs Regional Library, Sikeston Public Library, Texas County Library, and Webster Groves Public Library. These libraries have hosted events with topics ranging from storytelling to helping children become readers.

Once a library has hosted Family Nights, a second round of funding is available to help with locally produced Family Nights.

For more information, call Karen Jones at the State Library, 800-325-0131, ext 11, or send an e-mail message to jonesk@sosmail.state.mo.us.

Reader's Choice Awards

The Friends of Libraries USA (FOLUSA) have announced their second annual Reader's Choice Awards for books published in 1999. The winners were selected by library patrons nationwide.

General Fiction: *White Oleander* by Janet Fitch (Little, Brown)

Romance Fiction: *River's End* by Nora Roberts (Putnam)

Mystery/Thriller: *Testament* by John Grisham (Doubleday)

Science Fiction: *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* by J.K. Rowling (Scholastic)

General Nonfiction: *The Greatest Generation Speaks: Letters and Reflections* by Tom Brokaw (Random)

Autobiography/Biography: *'Tis* by Frank McCourt (Scribner)

Self-help: *Kitchen Table Wisdom* by Rachel Naomi Remen (Riverhead)

Handbook details digital projects

For the past five years, the Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) has explored the complex issues surrounding digital preservation through its successful School for Scanning conferences. NEDCC has made up-to-date information on these issues available to a broad audience with the publication of an easy-to-use primer, *Handbook for Digital Projects: A Management Tool for Preservation and Access*.

The handbook focuses on meeting the information needs of libraries, museums, archives, and other collections-holding institutions. It is intended to serve as a resource and response to the questions, conflicts, and unique preservation challenges produced by ever-evolving technologies.

A compilation of experts' experiences and advice, the handbook covers topics such as: rationale for digitization and preservation, guidelines from case studies, selection of materials for scanning, digital longevity, project management, vendor relations, and copyright issues.

The handbook, available for \$38.00, was funded in part by the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS). For ordering information, contact Juanita Singh at 978-470-1010 or Juanita@nedcc.org.

2000 U.S. population centered in Phelps County, Missouri

The area around Edgar Springs now shares an honor known only to 21 other U.S. communities. It's the new U.S. population center.

The center is in Phelps County, approximately 2.8 miles east of Edgar Springs, a rural community whose population totaled 190, according to Census 2000. This point is approximately 12.1 miles south and 32.5 miles west of the 1990 center of population, which was 9.7 miles southeast of Steelville, Missouri.

Each decade, after it tabulates the decennial census, the Census Bureau calculates



Web Watch

Refdesk.com

<http://www.refdesk.com>

This amazing site includes more than 500 pages with 20,000 links to government documents, newspapers, dictionaries, and almanacs. If you can ignore the ads, it's packed with information sources and useful items such as Reference-Site-of-the-Day, Today in History, Facts-of-the-Day, headline news, links to newspapers, and stock quotes.

SF Site

<http://www.sfsite.com>

From author interviews to book and television reviews, this site claims to be the "most comprehensive directory" of science fiction, fantasy, and horror writers on the Web. Includes keyword searching, extensive archives, links to sf magazines, and lists of sf conventions.

World Poem

<http://worldpoem.homestead.com>

"The poem that the world built" is a cooperative online project done in conjunction with the St. Louis Virtual World's Fair 2001 (see p. 7). View the poetry already submitted and find out how to become a part of this global cultural exchange.

2001 Places to Go

Missouri's summer reading program for youth will soon begin in full force. The statewide theme, "2001 Places to Go," features artwork by Joe Breeden, a freelance artist from Independence. Breeden has created the art for three previous summer programs in the state. Included with the 2001 program manual is clip art for bookmarks, flyers, certificates, brochures, stickers, and stamps.



the center of population. For Census 2000, the center of population is at 37.696987 latitude and 91.809567 longitude.

One hundred years ago, Columbus, Indiana, was the population center.

Literacy group gives books second life

For almost three years, the Johnson County Adult Literacy Program has distributed 2,000 used children's books in its Second Life for Children's Books program. Each book receives a label promoting the adult literacy program and is then put into the community. Books have been placed in hospitals, the court house, WIC office, juvenile office, laundromats, the Food Center, and other locations in the county where children sit and wait for services. Some of the books are also given to children during the Christmas food distribution.

The Trails Regional Library serves as a collection point for the program as do businesses and churches throughout the county.

NEA researches reading habits of adolescents

The National Education Association has issued results from a nationwide poll on reading and young Americans. The poll was conducted in February by Peter D. Hart Research Associates among a national cross section of youth, ages 12 to 18. Following is a summary of the survey results:

1. *Young people recognize and identify reading as a critical skill that they need to master in order to be successful in life.*

When presented with a list of topics that young people learn in school, reading tops the list of important skills.

2. *Overwhelmingly, young people both enjoy reading and are comfortable with and confident in their reading abilities.*

Even with the wide array of activities that compete for the time of young Americans, half (50%) of young Americans, 12- to 18-

years old, rate the enjoyment they get from reading as a "4" or "5" on a five-point scale. This is a sentiment shared by young Americans of all races.

3. *Young people do a healthy amount of reading: a solid majority (56%) say they read more than 10 books a year, including 41% who report reading more than 15 each year.*

In particular, middle-school students are doing more reading than their older peers: 70% of sixth to eighth graders report that they read more than 10 books a year, but 49% of high school students say the same.

4. *Young people are divided in their motives for reading.*

42% affirm they read primarily for "fun and pleasure," whereas 35% say they read mostly to get "facts and information."

5. *Minority students report not only more encouragement from their parents to read than their white peers, but also say they spend more time reading to others than do white youth.*

More than half of African-American students and (47%) of Hispanic students say their parents encourage reading, compared to 43% of white youth. And nearly one half (49%) of African-American youth and 40% of Hispanic students read to others at least a few times a week. A third of white teens (33%) do the same.

6. *While reading is important to teens, they do value other forms of leisure.*

Most say that giving up music would be more difficult than giving up reading. Close to one-half of those polled said "listening to music" would be the hardest to do without for a week.

7. *Consistently, young women express greater interest in and commitment to reading than do young men.*

Young women overwhelmingly say they read for "fun and pleasure," while young men overwhelmingly identify "getting facts and information" as the reason they read.

Young women also are more likely to say that they spend time every day reading books that aren't assigned as homework.

8. Although young people enjoy reading and feel comfortable with their reading abilities, they face a variety of challenges in mastering this critical skill.

For example, young people overwhelmingly identify libraries as the most common source for books that they read, ahead of bookstores or Internet sites, friends or family members, or gifts. However, more than one in four say that when they go to their own school library, they cannot find a good selection of up-to-date books and magazines that interest them.

9. Parents have a great deal of influence over their children's reading habits.

More than half of young people say their parents do not encourage them to read other than for schoolwork. Children who report that their parents encourage them to read are more likely to read a higher volume of books than those who say their parents leave it up to them.

10. When it comes to specific reading interests, young people's preferences reflect a rich and diverse set of topics.

The majority prefer reading fiction (66%), such as novels and short stories, over nonfiction, such as biographies and history books.

Gates Library Initiative implementation

The Gates Library Initiative in Missouri is well under way to help public libraries provide public access computing to their communities. On March 28, an advisory committee of individuals from various library agencies in Missouri met at the State Library to discuss the application process and other areas critical to the success of the program. Committee members also discussed the best methods to communicate with public libraries about training, community partnerships, and how to sustain the project into the future.

Since the Gates Library Program began in October 1997, the Gates Foundation has awarded \$33,198,770 to libraries.

Gates Library Program staff will review the applications submitted by libraries and make the awards in September. Regional training programs will follow.

Missouri also will receive seven regional computer labs in addition to the grants awarded to individual library buildings. The labs will consist of 10 public access computers, one trainer computer, a laser printer, and an applications server. These supplemental labs will be located regionally throughout the state in order to establish a statewide training network and to increase the number of public access computers a library can provide to its community.

Contact Heather Peugh at the State Library for additional details about the Gates Library Initiative, 800-325-0131, or peughh@sosmail.state.mo.us



Book Your Summer

For the second year, the State Library is sponsoring "Book Your Summer," a teen summer reading program. Last year, approximately 4,800 teens participated in the new program at 22 library systems. Nancee Dahms-Stinson, the State Library's youth services consultant, expects increased participation this year. Program artwork was created by K-Read, a library graphics and specialty products firm.

Gates Library Program Implementation Schedule

Action	Date
Applications mailed to individual libraries	June 21, 2001
Applications due to Gates Library Program	July 13, 2001
Awards mailed to individual libraries	Mid-September 2001
"Before Your Computer Arrives" workshops conducted by the Gates Library Program	October 2001
Implementation of computer delivery	January 2002
Implementation ends	July 2002



newsline welcomes information for "Missouri Library News" and "Personal Notes" from librarians, library trustees, and others interested in the state's libraries. Send news about library events, projects, awards, and personnel changes to the editor. (See page 2 for contact information.)

April 3 election results

✓ Voters in Doniphan and Ripley County passed a \$200,000 bond issue to be used for improvements and construction of an addition to the Doniphan-Ripley County Library. The new funds will be used for expansion of the 59-year-old Doniphan facility and improvements to the Naylor Branch. Library director Rose Bowen said the addition of 2,200 square feet will enable the library to accommodate more computers, expand the children's area, and create separate spaces for teens, genealogists, and literacy tutoring. Space also will be allocated for a reading room and a conference room for community groups and events. The library has not had a tax increase for more than 30 years.

✓ In Washington, voters extended a city sales tax for another seven years. Revenue from the tax will result in building improvements for the Washington Public Library. Library director Carolyn Witt said both the library and the police department will benefit from the tax. She said the 14-year-old tax has been used for a variety of building projects and improvements, but this is the first time the library will be a beneficiary of the tax.

✓ McDonald Countians defeated a proposal to increase the library's tax levy from 10 to 15 cents. The increase would have been used for a library expansion project.

✓ The Northeast Missouri Library Service's proposal for a five-cent tax increase failed at the polls. The library board has not requested a tax increase since the 1961 establishment of regional library service to Clark, Knox, Lewis, and Schuyler counties and the City of Kahoka.

KC law librarians sponsor book drive for children

During April, three Kansas City area law associations sponsored their third Children's Book Drive. Sponsors included the Jackson County Law Library, the Kansas

City Association of Law Libraries, and the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association's Young Lawyers Section Special Projects Committee. The groups requested new and used children's books to be dropped off at participating law firms, courthouses, and law libraries throughout the city.

This project seeks to redistribute books not currently being used by families and other caregivers to children who will not only use them but who would otherwise be unable to obtain them.

All donated books will be given to community organizations serving children. Previous drives collected 10,000 books that were distributed to more than 12 organizations. An additional \$1,000 was collected and used to purchase educational materials in support of the respective missions of the recipient organizations.

The 1998 "Share Good Books" book drive received national recognition at the annual meeting of the American Association of Law Libraries in 1999 in Washington, DC. The Jackson County Law Library nominated "Share Good Books" for the AALL/West Excellence in Marketing Award, and the drive won in the category of best campaign.

ESL and Spanish classes meet at Marshall Public Library

Courses in English as a Second Language have been offered since fall 2000 at the Marshall Public Library. The ESL classes, held on Saturday mornings, were instituted by the Marshall Saline Development Corporation (MSDC) to provide assistance to members of the local Hispanic population, which has shown significant growth in the last few years. The library is also the site for two basic Spanish classes, one for adults and one for children.

Sandy Cox, MSDC assistant director, started the classes with grant support from ConAgra and Excel, a division of Cargill. Both companies have facilities in the area and employ large numbers of Hispanics.

The basic Spanish class for adults focuses on conversation but is tailored to a group's level or for a specific profession, e.g., med-

Pierce City library joins Barry-Lawrence system



On March 8, 2001, the David Jones Public Library in Pierce City became part of the Barry-Lawrence Regional Library. Pierce City's library was the only municipal library in Lawrence County that had not joined the Barry-Lawrence system, which has its headquarters in Monett. Jean Berg, director of the Barry-Lawrence library, said staff is in the process of automating the Jones library and adding its holdings to the network system.

Celebrating the agreement at the Webb City Public Library is Berg (center) and members of Librarians Anonymous, a southwest Missouri organization (l-r): Jeannine Wormington, Sarcoxie Public Library; Jennifer Richardson, Carthage Public Library; Sara Parker, State Librarian; Glenda Pate, Cedar County Library; Jacque Gage, Barton County Library; Sue Oliveira, Webb City Public Library; and Beverly Spann, Neosho-Newton County Library.

ical terms and questions for health care workers, financial terms for banking personnel. Classes for children are primarily conversational.

Cox says the classes average 12 to 18 people. She appreciates the library's cooperation, its meeting rooms, and its accessibility to the community.

SMSU library offers e-reference service

The reference department at Southwest Missouri State University Libraries offers electronic reference services to students, faculty, and the general public. Known as E-Ref, the service is available to anyone with a valid e-mail address and is intended

for factual questions such as "Does the library have a subscription to any newspapers in the Virgin Islands?" or "When was the word 'stoppo' first used?" According to reference librarian Betty Evans, questions that are too general or too complex and involve considerable research are not answered through the service; they are referred to a reference librarian.

Check out the service by going to the libraries' home page at <http://library.smsu.edu> and clicking on "Forms."

Libraries interested in learning more about this service should contact Douglas Stehle, head of reference at SMSU's Meyer Library, 417-836-4537.

St. Louis Virtual World's Fair 2004

This website's grand mission is to "provide a forum for imparting cultures, including art, history, science, technology, and beliefs from all nations on earth" in order to "present and preserve a representation of the state of the human race as it enters the twenty-first century and the second millennium."

Produced by student volunteers and webmasters, this unique virtual fair features an impressive array of programs and events from scientific demonstrations and lectures to live performances and presentations of dance, music, and art.

Visit <http://www.virtualworldfairs.org/stl/> for more information about this effort.

More Library News



Library program ideas

Missouri libraries host thousands of interesting and creative programs for their adult patrons during the year. A few ideas for your program file:

- ▼ Healthy Home
- ▼ Senior Citizen Security
- ▼ Metaphysics: Understanding Your Dreams
- ▼ Underground Railroad: The Who, What and Where Did It Go
- ▼ Family Trees on the Web
- ▼ Laura Ingalls Wilder: The Woman Behind the Stories
- ▼ Bones of the Body
- ▼ Women in the Civil War
- ▼ Tales from the Oregon Trail
- ▼ Starting a Home Business
- ▼ House Cleaning Tips for the 21st Century
- ▼ Short-cuts to Piecing Quilts
- ▼ Financial Fitness for Life

Kansas City Public Library sponsors symposium

“Whatever Happened To...? A Look Back at Some Major Ideas of the 20th Century” is a spring symposium co-sponsored by Kansas City Public Library and the Hall Center for the Humanities at the University of Kansas. Jami Schaefer, community affairs director at the library, described the symposium as dealing with ideas that “once formed the bedrock of our social thought but now struggle to survive an onslaught of challenges.”

The symposium offers three programs on good and evil, liberalism in America, and classical music. Presenters are faculty from KU.

Springfield teens meet “After Hours” at the library

On the first Friday of each month, The Library Center in Springfield is open “after hours” only to teenagers. After the library closes, teens have the popular 8,300-square-foot facility to themselves until 11pm (librarians are on hand to help).

Springfield-Greene County Library started the program on a regular basis in late

1999. Young adult librarian Jazy Mihalik says the program has grown in popularity, with sizable crowds attending each month.

A typical Friday might include swing dance lessons, martial arts demonstrations, karaoke, hair and nail makeovers, games, free Internet access, prizes, and snacks from the library’s Churchill International Coffee Café. Teens can check out books, videos, meet their friends, and enjoy a variety of activities.

Mihalik says parents see the library as a safe evening environment. And librarians like the program because it gives them an opportunity to present the library in a different way.

North Kansas City Public Library’s expansion project

The North Kansas City Public Library has embarked on a \$4.6 million expansion project that will almost quadruple the size of the existing library. A significant portion of the funding for the addition comes from revenues from Harrah’s North Kansas City Casino & Hotel. Construction began on the project last fall, and completion is scheduled for spring 2002.

Model project involves Wolfner Library

Elementary students record books for the disabled

Alexia Cech, a fourth-grade student at Holman Elementary School in Berkeley, recently received a Lieutenant Governor’s Service Award. The award recognized Cech for recording children’s books for Wolfner Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. She is participating in a service learning project at Holman in which students are improving their reading skills while helping the disabled.

The project combines community service and lessons in reading, technology, and teamwork. It presents students with a

unique opportunity to improve reading while perfecting diction, enunciation, and pacing. Students compete to be chosen to record a book, just like students compete to be chosen for sport teams. This competition is promoting new levels of student performance in reading. Throughout the process, students critique and support one another.

The project began when Mel Schneider, a Title I aide at Holman, called Wolfner Library to ask if there was a way for students to record children’s books for the library. Schneider’s uncle, a St. Louis doctor who lost his sight late in life, was a Wolfner patron. Schneider, who oversees a daily student broadcast on closed-circuit television at Holman, thought that having students tape books might keep them focused on reading. When he called Wolfner, his call

was given to Deborah Stroup, the newly hired coordinator of volunteers for Wolfner. One of the projects she was working on was finding ways to get Missouri books taped for the use of Wolfner patrons.

Children tape books for children

Although books are traditionally taped by adults, Stroup was willing to explore the possibility of children taping books for other children. She suggested the school apply for a service learning grant from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). If the grant was awarded, the children could tape the Show Me Readers Award books. For the 2000-2001 school year, the National Library Service (NLS) was only recording three of the 10 award books. Therefore, in order for Wolfner patrons to participate fully in the program, the other seven books needed to be taped.

Holman received an interim grant for the extended school year, which staff used to buy tape recorders. The students (and Schneider) gave up lunch periods, after-school time, and even Saturdays to record two books. The practice tapes were critiqued by Susan Ford, a Wolfner patron and volunteer who helped the students understand they must read slowly and distinctly as they are the eyes of the listener. A school district speech pathologist worked with the students to improve diction and enunciation.

With the beginning of the new school year, and a \$12,000 service learning grant, Holman and the students really got serious about recording. They soundproofed a small storage closet, turning it into a studio. Then they purchased microphones, computers, editing software, mixers, and other audio equipment for quality recording.

When the students get ready to record, Schneider wheels a cart carrying a computer, speakers, and recording equipment from the closet into a hall. He and other students listen to those recording the books, help cut out mistakes, and paste in re-recorded material. Currently, about 15 students work in teams on the recording project.

NLS standards for recording require three-person teams: the narrator, who reads the book; the monitor, who follows along and makes sure the reading is done correctly; and the reviewer, who reviews the final tape and arranges for corrections, if necessary. The Holman students work in teams of three in order to meet these standards.

A valuable learning experience

To join the project, students must have good grades, strong reading ability, and excellent behavior. Students who record books have to be patient enough to re-record lines that sound jumbled on the computer. They have to be willing to accept criticism from other students, speak so they can be understood, pause at commas, and change pitch to signal someone talking in a story.

By recording the children's books on their own time, the Holman students are providing a community service and honing their own reading skills. About 87 percent of Holman's 235 students qualify for free or reduced-price lunches, a measure of poverty often associated with lower test scores. Principal Judy Bick says the children are becoming stronger readers themselves, and the Holman emphasis on reading has contributed to gains in test scores. Students once on the receiving end of help now find themselves giving to the community. As one of the students said, "It feels pretty good to do something for someone else."

The collaboration between Holman School, Wolfner Library, and DESE is expected to continue. The Holman project is a pilot program for other Missouri schools. In October 2001, Schneider and Stroup will conduct a workshop for DESE on how schools can set up their own recording programs.

New Web domains

The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers recently approved seven new suffixes for Web addresses:

.aero
.biz
.coop
.info
.museum
.name
.pro

Every state gains in Census 2000

The increase of 32.7 million people in the United States between 1990 and 2000 is the largest 10-year population increase in U.S. history. For the first time in the 20th century, all states gained population.

The nation's population in 1990 was 248.7 million; in 2000, it was 281.4 million. The previous record increase between decennial censuses, the 28.0 million jump between 1950 and 1960, occurred during the post-World War II baby boom.

The Midwest grew by 7.9 percent, adding 4.7 million people. Minnesota (up 12.4 percent) was the region's bellwether for the third straight decade. Illinois, up 988,000, and Michigan, up 643,000, recorded the largest numeric increases. Missouri's growth over the decade was 9.3 percent, up 478,138. The state with the nation's lowest population growth was in the Midwest: North Dakota (up 0.5 percent).

In 2000, more than eight out of 10 of the nation's population (226.0 million) lived in metropolitan areas and three in 10 were in metro areas of at least 5.0 million people. Metro areas with populations between 2.0 million and 5.0 million contained 14.4 percent of the population and grew the fastest (19.8 percent).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau



The library is our house of intellect, our transcendental university, with one exception: no one graduates from a library. No one possibly can, and no one should.

Vartan Gregorian



Basic equipment grants to 27 Missouri libraries

Secretary of State Matt Blunt has announced the award of \$270,434 in basic equipment grants to Missouri public libraries. These grants, funded through the Library Services and Technology Act, enable libraries to purchase computers, printers, scanners, microfilm readers, photocopiers, and other equipment necessary for efficient operation. Libraries receiving grants include:

PCs and other electronic equipment

Library	Award	Equipment
Bethany Public Library	\$2,098	Computer workstation
Christian County Library	\$7,477	Laptop computer, data projector
Dulany Library	\$2,300	Computer, printer
Gentry County Library	\$20,43	Laptop computers, data projector, laptop printer
Hannibal Free Public Library	\$3,216	Monitors, keyboards, mouses, buddy software
Kansas City Public Library	\$43,372	Computers
Lebanon-Laclede County Library	\$10,619	Computers
Livingston County Library	\$1,548.	Computer, surge protector
Oregon County Library	\$19,367	Computers, printer
Park Hills Public Library	\$1,645	Computer
Polk County Library	\$9,594	Computers
Riverside Regional Library	\$8,033	Computers, barcode scanners, printers, inventory scanners
Springfield-Greene County Library	\$16,875	Computers
Webster County Library	\$9,767	Computers, printer, hub, power supply

Library equipment

Library	Award	Equipment
Albany Carnegie Public Library	\$856	Die machine
Bethany Public Library	\$250	Fax machine
Bollinger County Library	\$7,010	Computers, server, UPS server
Cape Girardeau Public Library	\$3,350	Computers, printer
Cedar County Library	\$7,780	Photocopiers
Hannibal Free Public Library	\$3,988	Computers
Joplin Public Library	\$13,774	Computer, server, hub, printer PC hardware

Library	Award	Equipment
Little Dixie Regional Libraries	\$9,700	Digital microfilm reader printer
New Madrid County Library	\$1,980	Computer, UPS
Oregon County Library	\$8,345	Photocopiers
Polk County Library	\$1,545	Photocopier
Riverside Regional Library	\$8,467	Microfilm reader printer
Sikeston Public Library	\$1,009	Die machine, die set
Sullivan County Library	\$10,158	Digital microfilm reader printer
University City Public Library	\$8,700	Digital microfilm reader printer
Webster Groves Public Library	\$8,915	Computers
Wright County Library	\$3,000	Photocopiers

Blunt approves library automation grants

Secretary of State Matt Blunt has approved early spring Public Library Automation Grant awards totaling \$30,098 to be made to the following libraries:

❖ **Jefferson County Library**—for retrospective conversion of library records: \$6,300

❖ **Albany Carnegie Public Library**—for a new automation system: \$23,798

The grant to Jefferson County Library completes its migration to a new state-of-the-art computer system and ensures data integrity. The grant to Albany Carnegie Public Library funds a new online system and provides the first automated library services in Gentry County.

Another round of automation grant awards will be announced in the summer.

First Lady Laura Bush is honorary chair of national reading campaign

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington has announced First Lady Laura Bush will serve as honorary chair of Telling America's Stories, the Library of Congress's national campaign to promote reading.

"I'm thrilled to work with the Library of Congress to promote one of my lifelong passions—reading," said the First Lady, who is a former school librarian. "By tapping into the rich history of our country, it is our hope that Telling America's Stories will underscore the importance of reading and inspire Americans of all ages to read more."

Telling America's Stories will be the Library of Congress's reading promotion theme for 2001-2003. Libraries, schools, museums, and historical societies across the nation are invited to join the campaign.

This is the seventh national reading promotion campaign initiated by the Center for the Book. For more information and specific ideas about how to participate in the campaign, check the Center's website at <http://www.loc.gov/cfbook>.

The campaign takes advantage of recent Library of Congress initiatives such as the Local Legacies Project, begun last year as part of the Library's bicentennial celebration, the new Veterans' Oral History Project, and America's Library, the Library of Congress's new website for children and families at <http://www.americaslibrary.gov>.

“Anyone who has a book collection and a garden wants for nothing.”

—Cicero

Upcoming Events



May is National Book Month

June 6
Secretary's Council on Library Development Meeting
Columbia

June 9-14
Special Libraries Association Annual Conference
San Antonio

June 14-20
American Library Association Annual Conference
San Francisco

July 2
National Literacy Day

August 3
Wolfner Advisory Council Meeting
Jefferson City

August 7-10
State Library's Summer Institute
(see cover feature)
Columbia

August 16-25
International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions General Conference
Boston



**Whatever the cost of
our libraries, the
price is cheap com-
pared to that of an
ignorant nation.**

Walter Cronkite



Cutting edge, modeling, paradigm, stakeholder **Grantwriting jargon: are you guilty?**

New York Times Foundation president Jack Rosenthal characterizes much grantwriting language as “burdened with limp, lazy usages.” Such language as “convening stakeholders to develop action plans to promote standards reform, and initiating implementation of those plans” invites grant denials, according to Rosenthal. Here is his list of vague, weak, and trendy terms:

accountability	extrapolate	parameter
bench-marking	integrate	pro-active
challenge	learnings	resources
collaborative	leverage	synergy
constraints	linkage	targeting
cutting edge	paradigm	zero-based

To help both grantmakers and grantseekers avoid jargon, the Edna McConnell Clark Foundation has published “In Other Words,” a new booklet by Tony Proscio, a foundation consultant and former editorial writer. Proscio traces the use of many terms currently popular with the philanthropic community back to their roots in fields such as economics, social sciences, and management theory. In addition to being an annoyance, the use of such terms creates barriers to public understanding of the foundation world, Proscio writes.

To obtain a free copy of “In Other Words,” contact Deborah McCoy at 212-551-9100 or dmccoy@emcf.org.

**Missouri State Library
PO Box 387
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0387**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Jefferson City, MO
PERMIT NO. 10**